



# The IMAGE

## View from the Board

*by Howard Margules*

### IN DEFENSE OF REALISM

I would like to continue down the road I started a while ago. As photography and technology have evolved, there has been a trend to expand the horizon beyond what the eye and camera actually sees. We have been told that “fine art” photography is a more lofty form of photography that we should be aspiring to. It concentrates on form and emotion and what we feel rather than actual representation. Additionally, photo editing has greatly expanded our creative capabilities, with almost no boundaries. Are these avenues really generating better photography or just another alternative that is neither elevated or below traditional channels?

To my thinking, what makes photography unique from other art forms is its ability to capture a moment in time and that is where I choose to focus. (Pun) My argument is that the strongest emotions we experience are from seeing something real. Close your eyes and imagine your favorite photograph. Does it include abstract or fine art photography or real subjects? If we asked people to name the best photography, what would they choose? I would bet the list would include civil war images from Mathew Brady, world war battle pictures and the raising of the flag at Iwo Jima, and The Kiss signaling the end of World War II. It would include the Kennedy assassination, The Mai Lei massacre, and scenes from great natural disasters. Also add famous portrait photographs and the landscapes of Ansell Adams. I would bet that abstract photos of form and shapes and fine art photography would be way down the list. I am not saying fine art and creative photogrphay are inferior, but they are not necessarily a higher art form. Personally, I feel one can do a better job with a paint brush generating this kind of art, but only a camera can capture an actual moment in time.

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## OFFICERS

**President**

Maryann Flick.....860-395-0723

**Vice President**

Lou Secki .....203-533-9568

**Secretary**

Howard Margules.....860-434-3550

**Treasurer**

Deanna Broderick.....203-458-7604

## COMMITTEES

**Activities**

Archie Stone .....203-245-2381

**Exhibits**

Mark Janke.....203-457-1890

**Historian**

Joanne Volage.....203-245-8600

**Hospitality**

Julianne Derken.....203-318-0148

**Membership**

Paula Chabot.....860-399-5414

**Newsletter**

Lou Secki .....203-533-9568

**Programs**

Mark Janke.....203-457-1890

**Publicity**

Maura Kelly .....203-671-5909

**Representative**

Nick Carlino .....203-484-4603

**Webmaster**

Rob Nardino.....203-318-0831



## SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

This summer we bring you the assignment of "What I did on my summer vacation". Grab the best shots you have from the summer and post them to our flickr group.

As usual, have fun and be creative, upload them to your flickr account, and post the three best to the Coastal Camera Club's flickr group.

## June Meetings

**June 6, 2012**

Annual Business Meeting and Potluck Dinner.

**June 11, 2012**

Board Meeting

## NEED MORE INFORMATION? TRY LOOKING ON ONE OF THESE SITES:

If you need something, you can probably find it on the Internet. You just need to know where to look. For Coastal Camera Club information, please try these sites:

[www.coastalcameraclub.org](http://www.coastalcameraclub.org) - the official club website

[www.coastalcameraclub.wordpress.com](http://www.coastalcameraclub.wordpress.com) - club blog

<https://public.me.com/lou.secki> - site to download club files

## JUNE REFRESHMENTS:

June 6, 2012.....Pot Luck Dinner

**Follow these rules when submitting any image to the Coastal Camera Club:**

Files must be named using the following format:

X#\$Coastal\$LastName\$FistName\$ImageTittle\$YYYY-MM.jpg

Where X=the type of file (**O**pen, **D**igital **A**rt, **B**lack&White, etc) and YYYY-MM is the year and month of the event for which you are submitting the file. For example, O2\$Coastal\$Smith\$John\$The Red Barn\$2011-01, this is an image titled *The Red Barn* by John Smith of the Coastal Camera Club to be submitted to a competition in January of 2011.

Please remember the maximum size for competitions is 1024 pixels wide by 768 pixels tall. If the files are to be used in a club critique, they can be full size.

Images must be submitted to [ccc.images@gmail.com](mailto:ccc.images@gmail.com) with the subject line indicating the event for which you are submitting.

If you have any questions, please contact Lou Secki at [lou.secki@gmail.com](mailto:lou.secki@gmail.com).

The Coastal Camera Club meets at 7:00pm on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the new Madison Senior Center located at 29 Bradley Road in Madison, Connecticut.

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END OF YEAR BUSINESS MEETING AND POTLUCK DINNER

Dear Members,

I hope you will all be attending the last meeting of the CCC year on Wednesday June 6th. Come for the always delicious pot luck dinner and stay for the annual business meeting; and I believe we have a showing of images from club activities.

The election of officers is simple. A slate of officers is presented and you vote yeah or nay for the slate. However, nominations from the floor are accepted for any office and then we have a vote to choose one of the candidates. We are currently looking for someone to hold the office of VP since Louis Secki has more than enough duties doing the newsletter and most of the digital image presentations.

Prior to the vote (which takes all of about 5 minutes!) I would like to open the floor for some discussion of club business. If you've read your Members' Handbook you know we simplify the business of running the club by having a board of directors which are volunteer appointees. However, there are often issues that the board feels important enough to ask for your opinions and ideas.

Please think about the following topics before the meeting on Wed. night.

1. Critiques and circuits and 40-image review.

I lump these together because they are similar club programs. For critique nights you are asked to submit images you would like to have the critique committee provide input and editing. They prepare a comment sheet and show before and after versions of most images. For the NECCC circuits, the club rep [currently Nick Carlino] sends 6 nature images and 6 general images to the circuit chairman. If you attended circuit night presentations you know we receive DVD programs [one nature, one general] in which our images and those of several other clubs are reviewed with comment and suggested editing by the NECCC judge. First, second, third and honorable mentions are awarded. The 40-image review is the same except ALL the images are from our club. Regrettably we missed the deadline for doing a 40-image review this past year.

On Wed. I will ask for your feelings as to what you like best and what is most helpful.

2. Please consider the programs from the past year. What did you like best? What were your least favorites? What types of programs would you like to see in the future?

To refresh your memory: 9/15-Allison talked about photo essays as prep for the club project; 10/6-Mark talked about bird photography; 10/20- guest Sean Kernan talked about inspiration/creativity from the perspective of a pro photographer, presenting his recent work; 11/3-critique night; 11/17- guest Jerry Reed talked about making fine art photography; 1/5-Mark and Louis talked about printing and paper choices; 1/19-competition night; 2/1-NECCC Nature circuit; 2/15-critique night; 3/7-guest Chris Rakoczy talked about elements of composition; 3/21-NECCC Pictorial circuit; 4/4-joint competition night; 4/18-DVD presentation on Landscape Photography; 5/16-club project results--photo essays. [other meeting nights were receptions and the holiday pot luck dinner.

3. Activities. This has been one of the most problematic issues for CCC for as long as I've been with the club (about 9 years). When we do schedule an activity/photo shoot, less than 25% of members show up. Yet we get the most complaints about the lack of activities/photo shoots/meet-ups. Please tell us, what will work for you?

4. Club project. These are meant to encourage your creativity and photographic vision. And just to get people out shooting. Past projects have been scavenger hunts, road rallies, working the subject, photo essay. Perhaps the photo essay was too great a challenge? Road rallies worked for slide film but the concept would need adjustment for digital. They are also very difficult to create.

What ideas do you have for a club project for next year?

One project idea is to pick a specific subject/topic and collect images of that subject. For example you

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END OF YEAR BUSINESS MEETING AND POTLUCK DINNER, CONT'D

might pick Neon Signs, Fences, Steeples, Roses, Red Hats, Tattoos, Birds, .... Each image should be a unique example of the subject you've chosen. Submit 5-10 of the best from your collection.

If you absolutely cannot attend next Wed. I'd still like to hear your thoughts about the above issues.

Maryann

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## A PHOTO EXHIBIT: UNIQUE, DIVERSE, INSPIRING

Enjoy a collection of photos taken by Deanna Broderick from a recent trip to the Galapagos Islands.

The Birds and Reptiles of Galapagos

June 1 -30, 2012

The images will be on display at the Guilford Library, 67 Park Street, Guilford, CT (203) 453-8282

An Opening Reception will be Wednesday, June 21, 2012 from 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

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## NECCC PHOTOGRAPHY CONFERENCE

The NECCC will be holding their annual conference the weekend of July 13-15, 2012 at the UMASS campus in Amherst MA. If you've never been, this is a great weekend of photographic learning and opportunities. The weekend is filled with all sorts of photographic goodness. For more information go to [www.neccc.org](http://www.neccc.org). If you are interested in going, let someone on the board know as we usually try to coordinate rides and the suite reservations. You can also drop me a line at [lou.secki@gmail.com](mailto:lou.secki@gmail.com) with questions or just to let me know you are thinking of going.

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## PHOTO EXHIBIT

ClubMember, Fred Rosenthal, will be having an exhibit of his work called "Potpourri" in July. I hope you can all take the time to check out his work. The show will run from July 1, 2012 - July 30, 2012 and there will be an opening reception on Sunday, July 1, 2012 from 1 - 4 pm.

The show will hang at:

James Blackstone Memorial Library

758 Main St

Branford, CT

203-488-1441

### Next Season

See you all in September for our first of the new club year.

September 19, 2012

### Photo Opportunities

Please let us know if you are planning a little photography excursion and would like some company. In an effort to get club members out and shooting more we would like cultivate some spur-of-the-moment photography-related meet-ups. Let one of the board members know and we will try to get the workout for you. Obviously, the more notice you can give, the better chance you will have of getting some other club members to join you.

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Louis J. Secki  
400 Goose Lane  
Guilford, CT 06437